(b) what is the amount in foreign exchange earned by such units during the years 1986-87, and 1987-88, till the end/ of December, 1987.

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Copies of the publication containing names of the members/manufacturing exporters, who are registered with the Apparel Export Promotion Council as on 7.8.1987 is available in the Parliament Library.

(b) State-wise exports statistics are not maintained.

Establishment of a Free Trade Zone at Visakhapatnam

107. PROF . C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased tt state:

(a) what progress has been made so far in the establishment of a Free Trade Zone at Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) by when the work in this regard is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) and (b) Government have agreed in principle to the location of a possible Export Processing Zone at Visakhapatnam. The modalities of implementing the possibility have to be worked out having regard to the relevant techno-economic considerations. It is not possible to indicate a time limit in this regard at this stage.

Forest Cover

108. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Mnister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) how much of additional land has been brought under forests since 1980;

(b) by when Government hope to bring about a favourable ratio between forests and non-forest land in the country; and

(c) what specific steps Government propose to take to increase the area under forests in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Afforestation over 9.4 million hectare has been carried over since 1980 to Dec., 1987.

(b) Government is keen to bring about a favourable ratio between forest and non-ofrest land in the country as early as possible. It is not possible to indicate a specific time at this stage because of the complexities involved.

(c) Government has constituted National Wastelands Development Board with the object of boosting the afforestation work in the country and to develop people's involvement in afforestation.

Issue of Licences to Dry Fruit Dealers

109. SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA:
SHRI J. P. GOYAL.

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that with the import regulations prohibiting the new dealers to get into the business of importing dry fruits, a good number of licences issued to the dry frut importers are sold at a premium on letter of autholetter of authority without corresponding liability of pay tax;

(b) if so, whether Government have conducted any inquiry into such malpractices; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, what is the outcome thereof stating the estimated annual loss suffered by the Exchequer as a result thereof and the corrective measures contemplated by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI) : (a) to (c) Under the current Import Policy and procedures,